



MNPD NEWSLINE

THE OFFICIAL EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER OF THE MNPD

May 4, 2007

News from the Chief

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of the officers who have posted questions and comments regarding the proposal to shift patrol zone officers to a 4-day, 10-hour work week. Much of the talk in the department over the past week concerns the specific hours of the three shifts. If the department is to go to a 4-10 system, the shifts must balance our duty to the citizens of Nashville along with, what I am told, is a more desirable and advantageous schedule for officers.

This afternoon, the deputy chiefs and I met with the presidents of the department's three sworn labor organizations (Teamsters, FOP and NBPA). After discussion and review, all in attendance agreed that the shift hours below are the best the department can do when balancing our public duty with better schedules and improved personal time away from the job.

After carefully considering the posted suggestions, below is a workable alternative to the proposed shift hours posted with my memo last week. The alternative hours, which are now the official proposal to the department, are:

A Detail – 0630 to 1700 (originally recommended 0545 – 1615)

B Detail – 1630 to 0300 (originally recommended 1545 – 0215)

C Detail – 2030 to 0700 (originally recommended 1945 – 0615)

The alternative shifts allow for a 30 minute overlap on A & B shifts, which accommodate the B-shift roll call. They also allow for a 30 minute overlap between the C & A details to accommodate the A-shift roll call. The 30 minute overlap exists in our current shift configuration. The proposed 4-10 shift overlap between the B & C shifts (2030 to 0300) provides for a large complement of officers to answer calls for service and conduct proactive policing activities when demand for our services is greatest.

The shifts above are not subject to further change in advance of the vote on the 4-10 proposal. Voting will begin at 7 a.m. on May 14 and end at 5 p.m. on May 16.

I want to remind everyone that 4-10 shift hours were not my idea. I have been asked periodically during my tenure here to consider a 4-10 system by the leadership of the

Teamsters, FOP and NBPA. I understand that the proposal above is not perfect. However, we believe it does best serve the interests of the public and our officers.

Many officers will find the shifts above very advantageous to their personal lives and situations. Some, however, will want to stay with our current shift configuration and I respect that. I very much welcome your continued questions about a 4-10 system over the next week. There will, however, be no further consideration of alternatives to the shift hours above. Responses to your questions/comments will be timely posted under the special 4-10 public folder.

Thank you for taking the time to review and understand this material so that you can cast an informed ballot. Thank you, too, for your continuing hard work and commitment to Nashville's safety!

Happenings

The Metropolitan Police Department's new armored rescue vehicle, acquired through a \$250,000 Department of Homeland Security federal grant is equipped with thermal imaging equipment, weapons of mass destruction detection equipment, a radiological detection package, and explosive detection equipment. It is the only law enforcement vehicle of its kind in Middle Tennessee and replaces the department's 25-year-old armored vehicle.



Pictured (l-r) are Mayor Purcell, Chief Serpas, Sergeant Jeff Sanders, SWAT Officers Daniel Walz, John Downs, Melvin Brown III, and Robert Doak.

2007 Awards Ceremony

More than 80 citizens and police officers were honored April 24 during the Metropolitan Police Department's annual awards ceremony at the North Precinct.

The award recipients were recognized for heroism, bravery, and outstanding acts performed during 2006. Chief Serpas and Mayor Purcell presented plaques, certificates, and uniform ribbons to honorees.



Pictured (l-r) are Mayor Purcell, Danita Marsh's uncle, Michael Gooch, and Chief Serpas. Mr. Gooch accepted Officer Marsh's Distinguished Service and Police Officer Awards.



Pictured (l-r) Mayor Purcell, Ben McCoy, Truman Stubblefield, and Chief Serpas. McCoy and Stubblefield were given the Citizen Commendation Award for their efforts in assisting Officer Marsh.



Pictured (l-r) are Mayor Purcell, Jim Hill, Larry Graham, Steve Berk, and Chief Serpas. Hill, Graham, and Berk were given the Citizen Commendation Award for organizing a benefit concert and auction to assist Officer Marsh with her future housing and transportation needs.



Pictured (l-r) are Mayor Purcell, Sergeant James Johnson, Officer Joe Shelton, and Chief Serpas. Johnson and Shelton were given the Exemplary Service Award for their pursuit and capture of the gunman who shot Officer Marsh.



Pictured (l-r) are Mayor Purcell, recently retired Sergeant Phillip Sage, and Chief Serpas. Sergeant Sage was given the Exemplary Service Award.

Precinct of the Year Award

The Precinct of the Year Award was presented to the men and women of the Central Precinct for leading the police department in total arrests, warrants served, curfew and truancy arrests, traffic violations, and warrant service attempts for the year 2006.



Pictured (l-r) are Chief Serpas, Central Precinct Commander Andy Garrett, and Mayor Purcell. Commander Garrett accepted the Precinct of the Year Award on behalf of the men and women of the Central Precinct.

Marathon Accomplished!

North Precinct Commander Louise Kelton completed the 26.2 mile Music City Marathon in six hours and 34 minutes. Commander Kelton ran in honor of Officer Danita Marsh and accepted pledges on Danita's behalf with proceeds going to the 100 Club of Nashville.

As Officer Marsh continues to recover from her gunshot wounds, the 100 Club of Nashville has committed to help her regain some of life's basic choices by financing the purchase of accessible housing and a specially equipped vehicle.

Persons wanting to make a tax deductible contribution to assist Officer Marsh are urged to make checks payable to the 100 Club of Nashville and include the Marsh name on the memo portion. One hundred percent of the money donated will go to the Marsh fund.

Checks can be mailed to The Hundred Club of Nashville, P.O. Box 190428, Nashville, Tennessee, 37219-0428.

Graduation

Garry L. McReynolds is graduating Saturday, May 5, from Tennessee State University with a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Business Information Systems. Commencement will be held at T.S.U.'s Gentry Center complex at 9 a.m.

Garry is already putting his degree to good use. He was promoted from Computer Operator Shift Supervisor to Info Systems Applications Analyst 3 on April 16.

He completed 30 years of service to the police department on February 16.

The Precinct News

Hermitage

A traffic stop led to the seizure of an arsenal of weapons that were in the hands of a convicted felon. Flex officers stopped a van on Bell Road near Murfreesboro Pike because the tag on the van was reported stolen. The driver did not have a license and during a subsequent search of the van, officers found a handgun, an assault rifle, multiple knives, and a backpack containing black clothing and repelling gear.

The suspect was interviewed and signed a consent search of his residence where officers located four additional weapons. The suspect faces multiple weapons charges.

South

Thanks to citizen cooperation and heads-up police work, South Flex officers and Directed Patrol units arrested Mark Anthony Jackson for probation violation. Jackson has a lengthy arrest history and was on the precinct's top ten most wanted list. Jackson was working for a local business and was on a job site when he was taken into custody.

During the past 12 months, Officer Andy Belew has been the driving force in the location and arrest of dozens of dangerous criminals. Officer Belew's efforts led not only to the capture of fugitives wanted locally, but also to the arrests of persons wanted in other cities and states who took up residence in our community.

Nearly one pound of marijuana was seized during a traffic stop by Officer Julian Pirtle. Officer Pirtle could see the marijuana in plain view on the passenger side of the vehicle. The driver was charged with possession of marijuana for resale.

East

Ingenuity by East Precinct detectives led to the arrest of three persons for conspiring to rob a pizza delivery driver. One of the suspects, a 17-year-old, admitted to his involvement and said he needed money to rent a tuxedo for his school prom.

The police department's involvement began when East detectives responded to a local pizza business which received an order from a pay phone that had been used to initiate a prior robbery. Detectives placed a magnetic pizza sign from the business on an unmarked police car and drove to the delivery point in the 400 block of Avondale Drive. Two men were walking up and down the street and appeared to be waiting for the delivery driver to exit the car. A Honda sedan was pulled into a nearby alley and appeared ready for a quick getaway.

To avoid danger to the undercover officers, other detectives moved in on the three suspects. The 17-year-old admitted to helping plan a robbery of the pizza delivery driver and had a BB pistol in his pocket. Another suspect, Kenneth Smith, 18, of North 8th Street, also admitted that he was going to participate in the robbery. A third man, Edward Leon Pitts, II, 20, of Malquin Drive, who was seated behind the wheel of the Honda, asked for a lawyer and would not answer questions. However, an independent witness identified Pitts as also taking part in the robbery plot.

All three defendants are charged with conspiracy to commit aggravated robbery. The 17-year-old was booked at Juvenile Court. Bond for Smith and Pitts was set at \$20,000 each. Detectives are investigating whether the three are involved in any other robbery cases.

Conscientious police work by Sergeant William Whitley got a convicted sex offender off the streets of Nashville. Sergeant Whitley saw a suspicious person walking down Main Street near North 6th Street. An investigation determined that the individual was a convicted sex offender who had an outstanding warrant for aggravated sexual battery in Dickson County.

North

Officers were investigating a suspicious vehicle when they discovered that the owner had an outstanding probation violation warrant for homicide out of Bowling Green, Kentucky. The suspect was located and taken into custody near Brick Church Pike and Weakley Avenue.

West

Officer Shane Shetler ran the tag of a van parked in front of a residence on Leslie Avenue and discovered it was registered to a man with an outstanding warrant from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms. He was taken into custody without incident.

Two juveniles were charged with aggravated robbery and unlawful gun possession after officers responded to a robbery at a Charlotte Pike US Bank branch ATM. Officer Taylor Schmitz spotted the suspects in a vehicle across the street from the bank. The two teenagers were arrested without incident.

Central

Observant police work by Sergeant Kendall Smith led to the arrest of a convicted felon with a weapon. Sergeant Smith was standing at the Central Parking exit on 2nd Avenue when he saw a man drive out of the lot with a revolver in his lap. The suspect was arrested and the weapon seized. The suspect has past felony drug and weapons convictions.



A new acronym has been added to our vocabulary. Everyone's asking, "What's ARMS?" It is the Advanced Records Management System which is slated to replace our current mainframe RMS and related software totaling over 80 separate applications in November of this year.

ARMS is now in the development & testing phase and will ultimately consolidate all of our information into a single centralized database over the next few years. It will all begin with a new Internet Explorer Home Page called the ARMS Portal which will serve as "PDWeb on Steroids" and encompass all NCIC, TBI & Local Database Queries, online alternative for our Police Bulletin Board departmental announcements, online Human Resources job postings, a drill down version of our organizational chart with individual staff contact information, General Orders, directives, and overall departmental communications in general.

ARMS will also include the **inPURSUIT** RMS with over 40 distinct but integrated modules from Master Indices (Master Name, Master Vehicle, Master Location, & Master Property), full Case Management, Property & Evidence, Fleet & Supply Inventory Management, etc. ARMS will also introduce 14 new interfaces with JIS, DCSO, TBI, EBS, AFIS, etc.

ARMS will be replacing Police Central Mug Shot System with the DataWorks PhotoManager which has a more robust line-up component and the CrimeView crime mapping analysis tool which will be used by both SDD and the Precincts on a more localized level. Another critical component of ARMS is the introduction of Automated Field Reporting (AFR) via the FormStream application. This application will initially be used by Records as we implement the mainframe replacement in the fall of 2007. The AFR will be rolled out for department-wide use by all Field Operations and Investigative Divisions in mid-to-late 2008 and will coincide with the completed installation of broadband wireless air cards and compact printers for all field vehicles using the electronic forms for reporting. AFR will need to accommodate the capture of electronic signatures and fingerprint capture, as well, including state misdemeanor citations, moving violations, etc. Police IT is reviewing several devices to handle this in preparation for rollout and will deploy these prior to AFR as well.

Keep a lookout in the coming weeks for more detailed information about the ARMS implementation, training, and GO LIVE in future issues of the employee newsletter.

Background and Recruiting

By Lt. Michele Donegan

Session 54 began April 16 with 35 recruits reporting to the Training Academy.

The Background and Recruitment Unit is currently conducting background investigations for Session 55 which is scheduled to begin July 2. It appears we will have over 50 conditional offers, resulting in a projection of 30-35 trainees for Session 55.

A 15-second recruitment video produced by the Training Division's David Davenport returns to Regal theaters May 4 - July 19. The promotional video will be shown during movie previews at Hollywood 27, the Bellevue Cinema 12, and the Opry Mills 20.

If you have any questions regarding recruitment, please contact us at 862-7341.

Fiscal

This is a reminder for sworn personnel to spend all clothing allowance money for current fiscal year before June 30, 2007. It is recommended that officer's purchase items at Greene Military for the current Fiscal Year 2007 clothing allowance by May 31, 2007, so this will enable Greene Military to submit invoices before the end of the fiscal year.

Note: When picking up items at Greene Military, sign the invoice once items are received and write your 8 digit business unit number on the invoice. If you don't know this number you may call your secretary or MNPd Finance Section for this information. Receipt of goods from Greene Military beyond June 30, 2007, will be the responsibility of the Officer's personal expense or charged to their Fiscal Year 2008 clothing allowance. The clothing allowance budget is based on \$400.00 per year which cannot be carried over to the next fiscal year which begins July 1, 2007.

Congratulations:

Sergeant Mark Bradshaw, North Precinct, and his wife, Tara, are the proud parents of Nathaniel, born April 22.

Domestic Violence Counselor Janisca Rodriguez, and her husband, Hermitage Precinct Detective Sergeant Philip Williams, are the proud parents of Isabella Giselle, born April 25.

Officer Trainee Jeremy Stricklin, Training Academy, and his wife Melissa, are the proud parents of Mason Wayne, born April 27.



Condolences:

Mr. Ronald J. Porter, father of Officer Jeff Porter, South Precinct, passed away recently.

Ms. Eleanor Hedge, Retired Police Operations Supervisor, passed away April 25.

Mr. Richard Chastain, brother of Detective Mike Chastain, South Investigations, passed away April 29.

Retired Lieutenant James “Jack” Williams, retired 1989 after 38 years of service, recently passed away.

Shirley Herndon, mother-in-law of Officer Jim Gafford, School Resources, passed away May 4.

FYI:

The Drill & Ceremony Team are participating in the FOP Police Memorial Week, Honor Guard Competition, and Annual Police Officers’ Memorial Service. The competition and memorial service will take place Monday, May 14 and 15, in Washington D.C. The department is sending an eight-member team, to compete in three phases; Team Inspection Drill, Color Guard, and Exhibition/Demonstration Phase.

This is the first time the team has competed in this event. Our members have trained extremely hard for this honor and are eager to represent our department. To further their preparation, the team will put on a demonstration Thursday, May 10, at 11:30 a.m., on the south side of the Metro Courthouse near the fountains. The demonstration should last about ten minutes. All are invited.

The members representing the Drill & Ceremony Team are: James Boone, South Precinct; Merlyn Catron, Special Investigations Division; Bryan Doersam, Special Investigations Division; William Grimes, K9 Unit; Joseph High, South Precinct; Leonard Keeler, Domestic Violence Division; Benjamin Rodgers, Central Precinct; and Chris West, South Precinct.

Wonderful news! Rob and Mary Lee Carrigan's son, Ryan, had an MRI on May 1, and the results were negative. Ryan's blood counts also greatly improved.

The 5K walk "Strides for Change" to benefit Mothers Against Drunk Driving is Saturday, May 19, at Centennial Park at 9 a.m.

Walk-teams can consist of Metro Nashville Police Department employees, their families, and friends. To register your team, visit www.stridesforchange.com and choose Nashville as your 5K walk city. Once you register, assign a team leader, and start asking others to sponsor your team's participation. Raising \$100 for MADD is as easy as asking 10 people for \$10.

There is no minimum or maximum to how much you can raise.

Guess Who

Can you guess who the young man is accompanying retired Sergeant Al Foster? We will let you know in the next MNPD Newslines.

